

I am writing to complain about the plans of Sinclair Broadcasting to direct its member stations to broadcast a highly politically slanted feature during prime time and directly before a major election.

Not only is this kind of electioneering by a corporation against federal election law, it is not compatible with FCC rules. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies like Sinclair control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for them and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Thank you.